

I claim:

1) A fireplace poker comprising a substantially linear shaft portion having a hollow interior portion, a first end portion, and a second end portion, wherein said first end
5 portion includes a handle means, and wherein said second end portion comprises a hook means.

2) A fireplace poker according to claim 1 wherein said poker includes an opening disposed at said first end portion which enables said hollow interior portion to be in fluid
10 communication with the ambient surroundings.

3) A fireplace poker according to claim 2 wherein said poker includes an opening disposed at said second end portion which enables said hollow interior portion to be in fluid communication with the ambient surroundings.

4) A fireplace poker according to claim 3 wherein the cross sectional area of said opening disposed at said second end portion is less than the cross sectional area of the opening disposed at said first end portion.

5) A fireplace poker according to claim 1 wherein said poker includes an opening disposed at said second end portion which enables said hollow interior portion to be in fluid communication with the ambient surroundings.

6) A fireplace poker according to claim 1 wherein said shaft portion comprises two tubular sections which are connected to one another by means of a connector.

7) A fireplace poker according to claim 1 wherein said handle means comprises wood.

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8) A fireplace poker according to claim 1 wherein said handle means comprises a ceramic material.

9) A fireplace poker comprising a substantially linear shaft portion having a hollow interior portion, a first end portion, and a second end portion, wherein said first end portion includes a handle means, wherein said second end portion comprises a hook means, wherein said poker includes an opening disposed at said first end portion, and wherein said poker includes an opening disposed at said second end portion, which openings enable said hollow interior portion to be in fluid communication with the ambient surroundings.

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10) A fireplace poker according to claim 9 wherein the cross sectional area of said opening disposed at said second end portion is less than the cross sectional area of the opening disposed at said first end portion.

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11) A fireplace poker according to claim 9 wherein said shaft portion comprises two tubular sections which are connected to one another by means of a connector, and wherein said handle means comprises a material selected from the group consisting of: wood, ceramic materials, and a metal.

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12) A fireplace poker according to claim 1 comprising two hook portions disposed at said second end portion of said shaft portion.

13) A fireplace poker comprising:

10 a) a shaft portion having a hollow interior space and comprising a first end portion and a second end portion, wherein said hollow interior space of said shaft portion extends to both end portions of said shaft portion and is in fluid communication with the ambient surroundings at an opening at each of said first end portion and said second end portion of said shaft portion;

15 b) a handle means having a hollow interior space, a first end portion, and a second end portion, wherein said hollow interior space of said handle means extends to both end portions of said handle means and is in fluid communication with the ambient surroundings at an opening at each of said first end portion and said second end portion of said handle means,

20 wherein said second end portion of said handle means is connected to said first end portion of said shaft portion such that the hollow interior space of the shaft portion is in fluid communication with the hollow interior space of the handle means; and

 c) a hook means disposed at the second end portion of said shaft portion.

14) A fireplace poker according to claim 13 wherein the opening disposed at said second end portion of said shaft portion is of a smaller cross sectional area than the opening disposed at said first end portion of said handle means.

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15) A process of kindling a fire comprising the step of blowing air into the first end portion of a tube having a first end portion and a second end portion, which tube includes a hook means disposed at its second end portion.

10 16) A process for kindling a fire comprising the steps of:

a) providing a fireplace poker comprising:

i) a shaft portion having a hollow interior space and comprising a first end portion and a second end portion, wherein said hollow interior space of said shaft portion extends to both end portions of said shaft portion and is in fluid communication with the ambient surroundings at an opening at each of said first end portion and said second end portion of said shaft portion;

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ii) a handle means having a hollow interior space, a first end portion, and a second end portion, wherein said hollow interior space of said handle means extends to both end portions of said handle means and is in fluid communication with the ambient surroundings at an opening at each of said first end portion and said second end portion of said handle means,

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wherein said second end portion of said handle means is connected to said first end portion of said shaft portion such that the hollow interior space of the shaft portion is in fluid communication with the hollow interior space of the handle means; and

iii) a hook means disposed at the second end portion of said shaft portion; and

5 b) placing second end portion of said shaft portion in close proximity to a burning ember in a fireplace; and

c) blowing air from one's mouth into said first end portion of said handle means.